



GERMANY'S NATIONAL FUTURE AT STAKE, CHANCELLOR INSISTS IN REICHSTAG 'PEACE' DEBATE

War One of Defense Only, Kaiser's Spokesman Declares to Socialist Interpellation—Refuses to Specify Terms—Up to Allies

PEACE STATEMENTS MADE BY BELLIGERENT STATESMEN

In the course of the present week statesmen of three of the warring European nations have made formal statements on the text of peace. Premier Asquith, in the House of Commons, spoke guardedly, yesterday—'If proposals of a serious character for a general peace are put forward by the enemy Government, either directly or through a neutral Power, they will be discussed by the Allied Governments.'

FRENCH COMMISSIONERS HERE TO VISIT WAR PLANTS



Left to right—Walter P. Miller, chairman of Entertainment Committee, Chamber of Commerce; M. L. Vibien, director of the National Bank of Credit; Maurice Damour, M. E. Delasalle-Thiriz, secretary of the Syndicate of Spinners. The photo was taken in front of the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel today as they started on a tour of the city.

QUICK NEWS

BRITISH ACTION INDICATES SIX YEARS OF WAR

LONDON, Dec. 9.—Sir John Simon, the Home Secretary, introduced the Government Parliament and Registration bill in the House of Commons this afternoon. The bill provides that the life of the present Parliament shall be at least six years. This indicates that the Cabinet believes the war will last at least six years.

STEPHEN PHILLIPS, ENGLISH POET-DRAMATIST, DEAD

LONDON, Dec. 9.—Stephen Phillips, British poet and dramatist, died today at Deal.

'BIKERS' SMASHING RECORDS YET

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, New York, Dec. 9.—The learing teams in the six-day bicycle race were five laps ahead of the 1914 record this afternoon at 2 o'clock. They had traveled 1731 miles.

STRAUS SUCCEEDS McCALL ON SERVICE COMMISSION

ALBANY, Dec. 9.—Governor Whitman today appointed Oscar Straus chairman of the Public Service Commission, first district, to succeed E. E. McCall, removed.

COMMUNIPAW SAILS FROM ALEXANDRIA

LONDON, Dec. 9.—A Lloyd's Dispatch states that the American oil steamer Communipaw sailed from Alexandria Wednesday. The Communipaw was first reported to have been torpedoed and sunk by a submarine in the Mediterranean off the African coast. Later it was said she was attacked but escaped.

BIG FIRE SWEEPS GENOA QUAYS

GENOA, Italy, Dec. 9.—A devastating fire, fed by oil and cotton, swept the quays today. Thousands of barrels of oil stored in the warehouses exploded. Seven thousand bales of cotton, as well as great quantities of paraffin, were destroyed. Twenty loaded railway cars were also burned.

CARRANZA NAMES ARREDONDA U. S. AMBASSADOR

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Eliseo Arredonda, former Carranza agent in the United States, has been appointed Mexican Ambassador to this country, the State Department announced today.

U-BOATS SINK TWO MORE BRITISH SHIPS

LONDON, Dec. 9.—The Cunard steamer Veria and the steamship Goulandris have been sunk by submarines. The crew of the Veria, which was a vessel of 327 tons, was saved. The Veria was built in 1899 and hailed from Liverpool. It was in the Mediterranean service.

TURKS HARASS RETREATING BRITISH

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 9.—In constant clash with the retreating British, Turkish advance columns have reached Sheikh Saad, a few miles from the British base at Kut-el-Amara.

'We continue to harass the enemy's retreat,' said today's official statement, 'smothering some enemy columns attempting to escape. We have captured 300 camels.'

REICHSTAG TO BE ASKED FOR NEW \$2,500,000,000 LOAN

BERLIN, Dec. 9.—The Reichstag will be asked to vote a credit of 10,000,000,000 marks, supplementary to the 1915 budget, the Overseas News Agency has announced. At the normal rate of exchange this credit would represent \$2,500,000,000 in United States money. At the present time, however, it would represent only about \$2,000,000,000. Assuming the normal rate of exchange, the new credit would make a total of \$10,000,000,000 voted by Germany for war.

COLONEL TO USE HIS BIG GUNS AT HOME

TORONTO, Ont., Dec. 9.—'I cannot speak in Toronto until the war is over; I cannot trust myself for I would certainly say what would be unwise to say.' In these words, spoken with strong feeling, Colonel Roosevelt gave his refusal to Major Dawson, president of the Toronto Canadian Club, when the former President was asked to address the club in the near future.

AUSTRIAN SUBMARINE SINKS ITALIAN CRUISER

VIENNA, Dec. 9.—An official statement issued last night says: 'One of our submarines on the morning of the 5th sank a small Italian cruiser with two funnels off Valona (Arion), Albania.'

SLAV GUNS BRING ZEPPELIN TO EARTH

PETROGRAD, Dec. 9.—One of the heavy Russian batteries forced a German airship to descend in the region of Merzendorf, north of Baldon, according to an official report. The Russian bombardment was maintained upon that vicinity and a loud explosion was heard, which may have resulted from the destruction of the airship by our fire.

MINNESOTA'S PLIGHT NOT DUE TO PLOT

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9.—A wireless message received from Captain Garlick of the disabled liner Minnesota, declared that the troubles of the Minnesota were entirely mechanical, that there had been no mutiny and no trouble with the crew. According to a wireless received from the wrecking steamer Inaqua, the Minnesota was being towed toward San Francisco at four and a half to five knots an hour and would be in the vicinity of San Pedro tomorrow morning, and expected to reach San Francisco next Wednesday. All her 16 boilers are out of commission.

GERMAN PLOTTERS REPORTED AT WORK IN SPAIN

LONDON, Dec. 9.—According to the newspaper El Radical, extensive German plots to destroy railway lines, bridges and tunnels in the Province of Huelva (in southwestern Spain, north of Cadiz, and close to the Portuguese frontier) have been brought to light. The scheme is to wreck enterprises connected with or owned by the Allies. It is stated that German money to the extent of \$500,000 is being sent to the district for the purpose of sabotage. Barcelona is named as the headquarters of the plot, which in its ramifications bears a resemblance to the conspiracies recently unearthed in the United States.

ONLY 50 FEET OF EARTH BLOCKS PANAMA CANAL

PANAMA, Dec. 9.—Only 50 feet of earth now separates the waters of the channel in the Gaillard cut of the Panama Canal. This little neck of land, less than 20 feet high, probably can be removed by dredges in a few days. Although the prospects are that the waters of the two sections of the canal will speedily join each other, there is no expectation that the channel will be ready for the passage of ships for many weeks. Colonel Goethals says the slides have not yet stopped and might close the canal again before the operations are completed.

CURTISS BUILDING 10-TON WARPLANE FOR BRITAIN

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 9.—An aeroplane weighing 10 tons, with a cruising radius of 875 miles at a speed of 75 miles an hour, is under construction here in the Curtiss factory. It is expected that within a few months this great 'dread-nought of the air' will be ready for flight. It will be sent to Great Britain and will be used in fighting Zeppelins and submarines. The machine will be six times as large as the America, at present the biggest battleplane in the world. It will have a wing span of 133 feet, a length of 88 feet and will be propelled by six motors of the V-2 Curtiss type of 160 horsepower each. It will carry eight passengers and mount several guns.

BRITAIN DELAYS REQUISITIONING OF HOCKING

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Requisitioning by the British Government of the American Transatlantic Line steamship Hocking, protested by the State Department, has been postponed for three weeks, Secretary Lansing has been advised. The steamer is at Halifax, where it was taken by a British warship. Ambassador Page's presentation at London of the American protest is believed to be one cause of the postponement. The American Consul General at Halifax has informed the State Department that the prize court there allowed last week the requisition moved by the attorneys for the crown. Postponement was obtained by the English Attorney General at the request of Colonial authorities.

ARMY BILL PLANS PAY FOR THE MEN IN STATE MILITIA

First Defense Measure Fixes It at 25 Per Cent. of Regulars' Rate

CLASH IS EXPECTED

The Military Bill at a Glance

Is entitled 'An Act to increase the efficiency of the military establishment of the United States.' Provides Federal pay for the organized militia. Increases the regular army from 108,000 to 141,818 officers and enlisted men. Provides for six instead of four additional regiments of field artillery, and 12 instead of 15 additional companies of engineers.

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SUSPECTED GERMAN SPY CAUGHT AT DU PONT'S HOPEWELL PLANT

Detectives Declare They Found Him in Act of Blowing Up Shipping Shed—Blueprints Found in His Trunk

HOPEWELL, Va., Dec. 9.—A suspected German spy with a powerful field glass and blue prints in his possession was arrested here last night in the Du Pont Company's plant. Detectives say he was in the act of placing a high explosive in the shipping shed. A Greek arrested with him at the time was released this morning. The man is lodged in jail on the du Pont Company's plant. Detectives are said to have trailed him from northern cities. Large quantities of gun cotton ready for shipment were stored in the shipping warehouse, which the man is alleged to have attempted to blow up. The loss would have been several hundred thousand dollars had the man succeeded in his alleged attempt.

BANK AT LOGAN, BUSINESS SLOW, CLOSING DOORS

The Independence, Officers Say, Will Pay Depositors in Full

FEW LARGE ACCOUNTS

The Bank of Independence, at Broad and Windrim avenues, Logan, an institution founded last February under State supervision eight months ago, closed its doors today, after the officials decided that it could not be made a paying venture. There was no run, and depositors accepted the statement of the bank in full. A similar announcement was made by State Banking Commissioner William H. Smith from his home at 827 North 43d street, where he is confined by illness. Vice President Snyder, who lives at 18th and Ruscomb streets, gave positive assurance today that all depositors will be paid in full.

PLANS NOT REALIZED

The institution was founded in the beautiful and rapidly growing Logan section in the belief that it would become one of the most successful and powerful sectional banks in the city. Contrary to expectations, business was slow coming in. The deposits at no time, it is said, reached the expectations of the bank's backers. The small unsigned typewritten notice which announced the cessation of business caused considerable excitement among depositors, many of whom had Christmas money deposited in the bank. The notice read: 'A liquidation committee is appointed to close up the business of this bank. All parties interested will be notified. Vice President Snyder, who lives at 18th and Ruscomb streets, gave positive assurance today that all depositors will be paid in full.

Man Stricken on Street Dies

A 72-year-old man who fell unconscious at 4th street and Snyder avenue today died at the Mount Sinai Hospital less than an hour after he was admitted to that institution. He was Mendel Dietz, of 244 South 5th street.

DR. STEELE VIEWS STONEMEN'S CLUB AS A 'MONSTER'

Likens Organization to 'Frankenstein' Creation. Sure to Cause Mischief

OFFENSE TO THE CHURCH

SOME OF DOCTOR STEELE'S OPINIONS ON 'STONEMEN'

'Any hundred thousand men who herd together will get into politics not later, but very soon.' 'No one who touches that project of a \$200,000 clubhouse will find his fingers burned sooner or later, with financial scandal.' 'And, human nature being what it is, pro-Protestant and anti-Catholic are the only names for a distinction without a difference.' 'Frankenstein monster.' 'The many of the clergy have far too long left the Word of God to serve tables.' 'It is not this simple, cold, hard fact that it was stolen from under the very noses of its early organizers by the No Name Society and made to all intents and purposes political?'

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FACTORY OWNERS LEAD ATTACK ON FLAMES

Spectacular Blaze in Butterworth Textile Machinery Plant in Kensington

Members of the century-old firm of H. W. Butterworth & Sons Company, manufacturers of textile machinery, led their employees today in a spectacular attack upon the first fire the plant has had since it was established in 1828. The blaze started in the coal building, containing bins in which are 300 tons of pea coal, and is believed to have been the result of spontaneous combustion. It spread from there to the adjoining storehouse, in which are many valuable patterns and 20 tons of imported painted sheet iron. One end of the coal building was destroyed, and damage by water in the storehouse brought the total loss above \$10,000.

OTHER IMPROVEMENTS

The other improvements to be provided for by the \$2,500,000 loan are: Harbor and pier improvements, \$5,000,000; Removal of grade crossings, \$1,000,000; Other grade crossings removals, 1,000,000; Mainland bridge, 2,000,000; Parkway, 2,000,000; Main sewer, 1,000,000; Branch sewers, 1,000,000; Sewage disposal plants, 2,000,000; Replacing streets, 1,250,000; Grading streets, 1,250,000; County roads, 250,000; Paying interest, 2,500,000; White supply, 2,500,000; Philadelphia Hospital, 1,000,000; Art Museum, 2,000,000; Library, 500,000; Fairmount Park, 1,500,000; Small parks, 750,000; Recreation centers, 750,000; Supervision, 1,000,000; Philadelphia Hospital, 1,000,000; Fire and police stations, 1,000,000.

WEATHER

It seems that we were cheated out of that blizzard after all; and it looked like the real thing for a while, too, with those millions of white flakes floating down—where are they now? There are some people, it happens, by the way, who do not care for blizzards, but they are few and far between. What we hope these intermittent snow flurries are working up to is a real, regular, old-fashioned heavy snow, beginning at about 5 o'clock on the afternoon of December 9 and continuing into the night, while we sit over older and ginger cakes, taking an occasional glance out the window at the white, peaceful street, and the pedestrians stumbling along out there. That would make that long-awaited week-end equal to two Christmases rolled into one.

FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity—Generally fair tonight and Friday; slightly colder tonight; moderate westerly winds.

LOST AND FOUND

LOVING CUP—Lost, a silver loving cup, on Broad street, Dec. 6, in the Moore Hall. Reward \$25. Return to 304 Chestnut st. Handmade towels asked. BROWN—Lost, diamond sunburst brooch, \$15.00. Evening lost, either in Camden or Philadelphia. If party who found same will return to 509 Cooper street, Camden, they will receive suitable reward. BROWN—Lost, gold sleeve button, initials E. J. J. or J. H. J. on back. Reward \$5. Return to S. H. Atkins, Fajardo's office, Navy yard. BROWN—Lost, round beaver muff in Wawa-mackie, Pa. Home. Five dollars reward, no questions asked. Return to 304 Chestnut st. SANDRAG—Lost, small handbag, on train between Camden and Broad street, December 8. Reward \$5. Return to 284 Chestnut st. SANDRAG—Lost, dead, Lot 24, Block 6, Section 2, H. H. Cross Cemetery, Howard, 2022 Chestnut st. SANDRAG—Lost, on Broad between Berks & Columbia, Retzler 1971 N. Broad st., Newark. Reward \$5. Return to 284 Chestnut st. SANDRAG—Lost, gold ring, engraved "Bessie". Reward. Telephone Berks 1411.